



PLAC AMICUS PROGRAM FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. How do I request a brief?

Brief requests should be submitted via a completed Case Selection Questionnaire to amicus@plac.com. You will find a link to the Questionnaire [here](#). Questions should be directed to amicus@plac.com and we will respond promptly.

2. Who decides whether PLAC will brief an issue?

PLAC's Case Selection Committee (CSC) reviews all amicus requests and decides whether PLAC will file an amicus brief. The members of the CSC may be found [here](#).

3. What process does PLAC follow in deciding whether to file an amicus brief?

The Case Selection Committee meets on the first Thursday of the month to discuss and consider pending amicus requests. Prior to the meeting, all members of the CSC receive the Questionnaire and attachments for their review and consideration. In addition, one CSC member is assigned to present the case at the meeting. The presenter reviews the materials in depth and may also review other pleadings or speak to the requesting attorney for more information. Following the case presentation, the CSC discusses the request and reaches a consensus to file or not file a brief.

If the CSC agrees to file an amicus brief, it appoints a CSC member to serve as the Case Coordinator and selects a brief writer who is then engaged to work with the Case Coordinator and write the brief.

4. What factors does PLAC consider in making a decision?

The CSC considers many factors in making its decisions, including but not limited to:

- a. Is the issue to be briefed of significance to PLAC corporate members generally?
- b. Is a decision from the court in which the matter is pending likely to be influential?
- c. What is the stage of the proceedings and will amicus briefs be meaningful to the determination of the issue?
- d. Does the deadline for submitting amicus briefs provide PLAC sufficient time to prepare a high-quality brief?

- e. Will PLAC be able to contribute a perspective or argument that is different from or adds to those of the party and other amici?
- f. Do PLAC corporate members have diverging views or litigation positions on the issue?
- g. Is there an issue that may prevent the court from reaching the issue PLAC might brief?
- h. Is the request from a PLAC member?
- i. Does the amicus budget have sufficient funds to meet pending and expected requests for amicus support?

5. What is the deadline for submitting a request?

With few exceptions, Questionnaires must be submitted ten days before the next scheduled CSC meeting. Where court deadlines make that timing impractical, the CSC or a designated subcommittee will consider requests on an emergency basis.

6. Do I have to be a member to request a brief?

PLAC membership is not required but member requests are given priority. Membership may be a deciding factor if the CSC receives many requests in a given month or if budget constraints limit the number of briefs to be filed, particularly toward the end of the calendar/fiscal year.

7. Does PLAC charge for amicus briefs?

The cost of PLAC amicus briefs is underwritten by member dues. There is no charge to parties requesting amicus support.

8. When will I be notified of PLAC's decision?

Notice is generally provided on or shortly after the day of the CSC's decision. In some circumstances, notice will be delayed while final arrangements are made for brief writers.